**Menace of prostitution**

3496. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Times of India of July 31, 1993 under the caption 'Where prostitution is a way of life'; if so, whether the practice has been known to the Social Welfare Department how long and what steps had been taken to combat the menace;

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to tackle the problem in the immediate future; and

(c) what is being done or is proposed to be done about the risk of sexually transmitted diseases among the people of this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The practice of prostitution among Bancha da and Bedia Communities is prevalent in parts of Mandsore district and some pockets in Madhya Pradesh. The State Government had formulated a scheme called 'JABALI' during 1992-93 to curb the tendency of prostitution in these communities and their rehabilitation, with the cooperation of voluntary organisations, which envisages;

(i) The opening of Ashram schools for the children of prostitutes and protection homes for their daughters;

(ii) measures for their economic upliftment;

(iii) carrying out media campaigns to generate awareness; and

(iv) providing medical check up and treatment to prostitutes.

An amounts of Rs. 12 lakhs have been allocated during 1993-94 by the State Government under the Scheme. A massive awareness generation campaign has been launched in the area.

(c) Under the National AIDS Control Programme, prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), which are one of the major pre-disposing factors for HIV/AIDS transmission, constitutes one of the most significant components of the overall strategy. There are also plans to strengthen the STD Control Programme in the high-risk areas through augmentation of the capabilities of the STD Clinics in such areas. The State Government's plan for this area includes increasing precautions for AIDS through campaign which includes use of publicity literature and video films.

**Atrocities on SC|ST**

3497. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of atrocities on SC/ST in states of U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Union Territory of Delhi 1986—1993;

(b) whether trials of the accused in the cases relating to the year 1986—88 have been completed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether special courts for the trials of these offences have been established in these States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The number of cases of atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State of Uttar Pradesh,